

**Notice of Allowability****Application No.**

10/688,039

**Examiner**

MATTHEW ZIMMERMAN

**Applicant(s)**

CROSSGROVE ET AL.

**Art Unit**

3625

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 09/26/2011.
2. ☐ An election was made by the applicant in response to a restriction requirement set forth during the interview on \_\_\_\_; the restriction requirement and election have been incorporated into this action.
3. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2,3,7-9,12-15,17,18 and 22-28.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date 12/14/2011.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_.

/YOGESH C GARG/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3625

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 09/26/2011 has been entered.

### ***Examiner's Amendment***

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The title has been amended as follows:

~~System, method and program product for maintaining item requests~~  
Method, Medium, and System for Detecting Errors in Item Requests

The claims have been amended in accordance with an interview with the attorney of record as follows:

1. (Cancelled).

2. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 27 ~~[[1]]~~, further comprising a ~~wherein the set of tables including further includes~~ a header level text table that identifies business justifications set forth by the users for approving the user-initiated item requests, ~~the displayed data further including at least one identified business justification.~~

3. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 27 ~~[[1]]~~, further comprising a request reception system ~~configured to receive for receiving~~ the user-initiated item requests from the users and the system-initiated item requests from at least one external system, wherein the request reception system further populates the set of tables using data from the user-initiated item requests and the system-initiated item requests.

4. (Cancelled).

5. (Cancelled).

6. (Cancelled).

7. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 27 ~~[[1]]~~, wherein the administrator is a global administrator.

8. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 27 ~~[[1]]~~, wherein the view presentation system ~~is~~ further configured to provide ~~provides~~ a country administrator with the view of the failed request queue, and wherein the data presentation system further displays the data corresponding to the system-initiated item requests and the user-initiated item requests to the country administrator.

9. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for maintaining item requests, executed on a computer device, the method comprising:

receiving, on the computer device, a user-initiated item request and a system-initiated item request, wherein the user-initiated item request identifies a supplier for fulfilling the user-initiated item request;

processing, on the computer device, the user-initiated item request and the system-initiated item request, wherein the system-initiated item request is processed differently from user-initiated item requests and wherein the system-initiated item request is processed in batch with other system-initiated item requests and wherein the processing comprises attempting to assign ~~assigning~~ an approver and a supplier to each of the user-initiated item request and the

system-initiated item request, the approver being distinct from the user initiating the item request;

detecting an error in the system-initiated request based on a lack of locating a supplier or an approver during the processing;

inserting, on the computer device, the system-initiated item request into a failed request queue in response to detecting the error in the processing;

presenting, on the computer device, an administrator with a view of data corresponding to the failed request queue upon request, the view including an identification of a system-initiated item request that failed and a reason for the failure; and

accessing, on the computer device, a set of tables to display data, distinct from the failed request queue, corresponding to all of the system-initiated item request and all of the user-initiated item request to the administrator, wherein the set of tables accessed includes a party table that identifies the supplier, the displayed data including at least one identified supplier,

wherein the view of the failed request queue and the data are presented separately ~~and concurrently~~ to the administrator in separate views within a single window without opening multiple windows.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled).

12. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the administrator is a global administrator.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, further comprising providing the global administrator with the capability to edit displayed data.

14. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the administrator is a country administrator.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the user-initiated item request further includes a business justification for approving the user-initiated item request, and wherein the set of tables accessed to display the data further includes a header level text table that identifies the business justifications, the displayed data further including at least one identified business justification.

16. (Cancelled).

17. (Previously Presented) The program product of claim 28 [[16]], further comprising a wherein the set of tables including further includes a header level text table that identifies business justifications set forth by the users for approving

the user-initiated item requests, ~~the displayed data further including at least one identified business justification.~~

18. (Original) The program product of claim 28 [[16]], further comprising program code for receiving the user-initiated item requests from the users and the system-initiated item requests from at least one external system, wherein the program code for receiving further populates a ~~the~~ set of tables using data from the user-initiated item requests and the system-initiated item requests.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled).

21. (Cancelled).

22. (Original) The program product of claim 28 [[16]], wherein the administrator is a global administrator.

23. (Original) The program product of claim 28 [[16]], wherein the program code for presenting further provides a country administrator with the view of the failed request queue, and wherein the program code for displaying further displays the

data corresponding to the system-initiated item requests and the user-initiated item requests to the country administrator.

24. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 27 [[1]], wherein the system-initiated item requests and the user-initiated item requests do not include a designated supplier or a designated approver, and the user-initiated item requests may include a suggested supplier.

25. (Previously Presented) The program product of claim 28 [[16]], wherein the system-initiated item requests and the user-initiated item requests do not include a designated supplier or a designated approver, and the user-initiated item requests may include a suggested supplier.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the system-initiated item requests and the user-initiated item requests do not include a designated supplier or a designated approver, and the user-initiated item requests may include a suggested supplier.

27. (New) A system for maintaining item requests, comprising:  
at least one computer device configured to:



receive, on the computer device, a user-initiated item request and a system-initiated item request, wherein the user-initiated item request identifies a supplier for fulfilling the user-initiated item request;

process, on the computer device, the user-initiated item request and the system-initiated item request, wherein the system-initiated item request is processed differently from user-initiated item requests and wherein the system-initiated item request is processed in batch with other system-initiated item requests and wherein the processing comprises attempting to assign an approver and a supplier to each of the user-initiated item request and the system-initiated item request, the approver being distinct from the user initiating the item request;

detect an error in the system-initiated request based on a lack of locating a supplier or an approver during the processing;

insert, on the computer device, the system-initiated item request into a failed request queue in response to detecting the error in the processing;

present, on the computer device, an administrator with a view of data corresponding to the failed request queue upon request, the view including an identification of a system-initiated item request that failed and a reason for the failure; and

access, on the computer device, a set of tables to display data, distinct from the failed request queue, corresponding to all of the system-

initiated item request and all of the user-initiated item request to the administrator, wherein the set of tables accessed includes a party table that identifies the supplier, the displayed data including at least one identified supplier, wherein the view of the failed request queue and the data are presented separately to the administrator in separate views within a single window without opening multiple windows.

28. (New) A program product stored on a non-transitory computer readable medium for maintaining item requests, wherein the program product comprises executable instructions which when executed by at least one computing device causes the at least one computing device to:

receive, on the computer device, a user-initiated item request and a system-initiated item request, wherein the user-initiated item request identifies a supplier for fulfilling the user-initiated item request;

process, on the computer device, the user-initiated item request and the system-initiated item request, wherein the system-initiated item request is processed differently from user-initiated item requests and wherein the system-initiated item request is processed in batch with other system-initiated item requests and wherein the processing comprises attempting to assign an approver and a supplier to each of the user-initiated item request and the system-initiated item request, the approver being distinct from the user initiating the item request;

detect an error in the system-initiated request based on a lack of locating a supplier or an approver during the processing;

insert, on the computer device, the system-initiated item request into a failed request queue in response to detecting the error in the processing;

present, on the computer device, an administrator with a view of data corresponding to the failed request queue upon request, the view including an identification of a system-initiated item request that failed and a reason for the failure; and

access, on the computer device, a set of tables to display data, distinct from the failed request queue, corresponding to all of the system-initiated item request and all of the user-initiated item request to the administrator, wherein the set of tables accessed includes a party table that identifies the supplier, the displayed data including at least one identified supplier, wherein the view of the failed request queue and the data are presented separately to the administrator in separate views within a single window without opening multiple windows.

***Reasons for Allowance***

In the present application, claims 2-3, 7-9, 12-15, 17-18, 22-28 are allowed. The following is the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record neither alone nor in combination anticipates nor renders obvious the present invention. The allowable feature of claim 9 is the entire claim taken as a whole including such limitations as: processing, on the computer device, the user-initiated item request and the system-initiated item request, wherein the system-initiated item request is processed differently from user-initiated item requests and wherein the system-initiated item request is processed in batch with other system-initiated item requests and wherein the processing comprises attempting to assign an approver and a supplier to each of the user-initiated item request and the system-initiated item request, the approver being distinct from the user initiating the item request; detect an error in the system-initiated request based on a lack of locating a supplier or an approver during the processing; wherein the view of the failed request queue and the data are presented separately to the administrator in separate views within a single window without opening multiple windows.

The allowable features of claims 27 and 28 are the same as claim 9 as both contain the same claim language.

The most related prior art patent of record is Burton (US 2002/0055878) which teaches a user initiated item request. The most related non-patent literature of record is Reference U (see PTO-892) which teaches approving requisitions. However, the combination of Burton and Reference U neither anticipates nor renders obvious the

present invention including the limitations such as processing, on the computer device, the user-initiated item request and the system-initiated item request, wherein the system-initiated item request is processed differently from user-initiated item requests and wherein the system-initiated item request is processed in batch with other system-initiated item requests and wherein the processing comprises attempting to assign an approver and a supplier to each of the user-initiated item request and the system-initiated item request, the approver being distinct from the user initiating the item request; detect an error in the system-initiated request based on a lack of locating a supplier or an approver during the processing; wherein the view of the failed request queue and the data are presented separately to the administrator in separate views within a single window without opening multiple windows.

For these reasons, the Examiner asserts that the claims are allowable because the prior art does not anticipate them or render them obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MATTHEW ZIMMERMAN whose telephone number is (571)270-5278. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thu 7:30am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeff Smith can be reached on (571) 272-6763. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MATTHEW ZIMMERMAN  
Examiner, Art Unit 3625

/YOGESH C GARG/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3625